Department of Children & Youth

Licensing Inspection Full Report

All licensed early care and education programs are inspected at least once each year. Non-compliances are documented and grouped by risk level. Documenting statements, technical assistance provided and supplemental information may be included in this report. Licensing inspection reports from the previous three years can be viewed on the Department of Children & Youth website at https://childcaresearch.ohio.gov/ . This includes complaint investigation reports with substantiated allegations. For any other early care and education records, please contact the Family and Customer Support Center at 1-844-234-5437.

Program Details		
Program Name A Step Above Daycare Academy	Program Number 2180016960	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 10320 Lorain Ave cleveland OH 44111		County CUYAHOGA

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 11/03/2026	Begin Time 9:30 AM	End Time 12:30 PM	Reviewer: Akeea Nelson

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 67	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 6		No. Requirements Compliant 56
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 1	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 5	No. Technical Assistance Provided 3

License Capacity and Enrollment at the Time of Inspection				
Age Group	License Capacity	Enrollment		
	Totals	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Infant (Birth to < 18 m)		8	0	8
Young Toddler		12	0	12
Total Under 2 ½ Years	26	20	0	20
Older Toddler		0	0	0
Preschool		21	2	23
School Age		0	40	40
Total Capacity/Enrollment	72	21	42	83

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Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 3	In Compliance	Arrival Ratio- 9:36am
Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 4	In Compliance	2nd Ratio- 11:15am (Lunch Ratio)
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 6	In Compliance	Arrival Ratio- 9:36am
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 8	In Compliance	2nd Ratio- 11:15am (Lunch Ratio)
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 9	In Compliance	Arrival Ratio- 9:36am
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 8	In Compliance	2nd Ratio- 11:15am (Lunch Ratio)
School-age	5 years to < Kindergarten	2 to 11	In Compliance	Arrival Ratio- 9:36am
School-age	5 years to < Kindergarten	2 to 12	In Compliance	2nd Ratio- 11:15am (Lunch Ratio)

Summary of Non-Compliances

If a program disagrees with a licensing finding, the program may request a review of the finding(s). Ohio Administrative Code 5180:2-12-03, 5180:2-13-03, 5180:2-19-10 and 5180:2-20-02 detail the process for submitting a request for review. The request for review must be submitted within ten business days from the receipt of the licensing report. In addition, if the program is Step Up To Quality rated, the rating may be impacted if a serious or moderate risk non-compliance is cited.

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

A serious risk non-compliance is a licensing rule violation that has the potential to lead to a great risk of harm to a child and is observable and/or based on facts.

No serious risk non-compliances were observed during this inspection

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Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

A moderate risk non-compliance is a licensing rule violation that has the potential to lead to a great risk of harm to a child and is observable and/or based on facts.

Domain: 06 Program Information

Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Vehicle Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to use the correct vehicle type as specified in rule. The program is also required to have all vehicles used to transport children inspected by an ASE certified mechanic, FMCSA inspector or the State Highway patrol annually, and correct all repairs that are listed on the vehicle inspection report.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the program used a vehicle to transport children that was not approved and/or did not have a current annual vehicle inspection indicating the vehicle was mechanically safe.

The following was observed: (the vehicle inspection was not updated annually)

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes either discontinuing the use of the vehicle, documentation for any new vehicle now being used to transport children, or a copy of the DCY 01230 "Vehicle Inspection Report for Child Care Centers", to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/03/2026

Other Non-Compliances

This section includes other rule violations that are observable and/or based on facts.

Domain: 01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records

Requirement: The program is required to maintain a record of the arrival and departure of each child. The program is also required to retain the original attendance record at the center for a period of one year.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for keeping an attendance record.

The following was observed: The attendance record was not being consistently completed.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/03/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Equipment

Requirement: The program is required to use equipment, that is safe and hazard free, according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Fans, air conditioners, heat pumps, and space heaters must be inaccessible to children. The program is required to refrain from using trampolines, ball pits and inflatable equipment intended for climbing and bouncing, including but not limited to slides and bounce houses.

Finding: During the inspection, equipment was determined to be unsafe, hazardous to children, or in need of repair.

The following was observed: the equipment had sharp points or corners.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/03/2026

Domain: **03 Postings & Equipment**

Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Materials and Equipment

Requirement: The program is required to have enough equipment for all children in care.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that equipment and materials in the following categories were not provided in sufficient quantities for children, as required: school age children were not provided sufficient equipment and materials in at least five of the nine categories listed in rule.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of the rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/03/2026

Domain: **03 Postings & Equipment**

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Postings

Requirement: The program is required to post the fire and weather plans.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the fire and/or weather alert plans did not meet the requirement of the rule.

The following was observed: fire alert diagram, and weather alert diagram indicating evacuation routes was missing.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/03/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Immunization Records

Requirement: The program is required to have complete child immunization records on file.

Finding: In review of 25% of the children's records, it was determined that complete child immunization records were not on file, as required, for children listed on the DCY Children's Record Review for Child Care.

The following was observed: immunization record(s) were not on file at the center within thirty days of the child's first day of attendance

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/03/2026

Technical Assistance Provided

This section documents technical assistance provided to the program when the program demonstrated an overall level of compliance with a rule requirement.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Orientation Training & Whistle Blower Protection

Requirement: The program is required to have staff complete the online staff orientation training. Additionally, the training must be completed before they are permitted to have sole responsibility of children.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the employee's orientation is not complete as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Staff Immunization Records

Requirement: The program is required to have every employee provide immunization records.

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Findings: During the inspection, it was determined verification of staff immunization was not on file as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Health Training Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have all child care staff members complete training in child abuse and neglect recognition and prevention within sixty days of hire. Staff must complete training in first aid and CPR within the first ninety days of hire.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined staff have not completed health and safety training(s) as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

In Compliance/Not Verified/Previously Verified/Not Applicable

This section documents rule requirements that were assessed as fully compliant, previously verified, not verified during this inspection or not applicable to the program.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-18 License Capacity	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 License Visible	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-03 Inspection Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: A copy of the certificate of occupancy was available on-site for review.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Fire Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Please Note: Documentation of a fire inspection without any uncorrected violations must be secured for the program. Secure a new fire inspection by 7/21/27.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Food Service Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The food service license was observed posted. Following is the audit number and date of expiration: 33051405339A 3/1/27.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-05 Denial, Revocation and Suspension	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-07 Administrator Qualifications	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The written policies and procedures reviewed on the day of the inspection were verified as complete.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-08 Child Care Staff Member Educational Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-10 Professional Development Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Indoor Space Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-13 Smoke Free Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program uses the DCY sample trip permission form

for routine trips to secure written permission from parents or guardians.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Driver Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The driver(s) had completed the required DCY driver training.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 First Aid/Standard Precautions	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the program had complete first aid kits available as required.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The DCY 08087 "Communicable Disease Chart" was posted and was readily available to staff and parents.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Incident/Injury Reporting	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Health Care Plans	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, there were no children currently enrolled who had health conditions.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Annual training of the emergency preparedness and response plan was completed by staff.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff/child ratios observed during the inspection were in compliance.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-18 Group Size	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-19 Supervision	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Meal Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-21 Evening and Overnight Care	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Fluid Milk Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 Infant Daily Care	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-24 Swimming and Water Safety Requirements	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Drills	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Documentation for completed fire, weather, and emergency/lockdown drills was verified during this inspection.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-21 Mobile Preschools	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 Current Information	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 Amendments to the License	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Enrollment Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, 25% of the children's records were reviewed, and the enrollment records were complete, as required by the rule.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-15 Child Record Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-08 Staff TB Screening Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Equipment and Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Safe Environment and Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Placement	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Specialized Diets	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training - Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training - Supplies	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 Medication Administration Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 Medication Documentation	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 Medication Storage	Compliant	